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Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

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Unasphalted road to school for children with autism proves risky ride, open well in area adds to aura of danger as BBMP promises to take up work after BWSSB is done with pipeline work

SLIP & SLIDE TO SCHOOL

Pipeline work began 9 months ago but road has been unpaved for 12 years

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

For the 50 children with autism attending Bubbles Centre for Autism in Bileshivale, Mahadevapura, it is quite a risky trek up to their school. As there is no asphalted road, the commute to school is slippery after rain. While the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has promised to take up road work right after Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is done with its work, which the latter promises would be done in a month.

But all this is just talk for the students and parents visiting the centre as for the past 12 years, there has been no asphalted road here. Rainy season is a struggle for all involved as the muddy stretch becomes completely unmotorable and riders are prone to accidents from slipping and skidding.

Adding to their problems, BWSSB started pipeline work in the area nine months ago, making the commute even more problematic.

According to the founder director of the school, despite efforts over several years, the road has remained unasphalted.

This has become a perpetual problem, especially during the rainy season. "Shortly after the inauguration by political leaders, the stretch was tarred for a small stretch but there was opposition from some people. Soon, the work was

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

"We are laying down sewage pipelines for the 110 villages added to BBMP. We have provided a safe commute space for the school. We will complete the work by July 15 — BWSSB official

TRASH STATION

Garbage and muck piles up at Kodigehalli Halt Station as authorities ignore maintenance

PAGE 4

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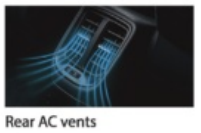
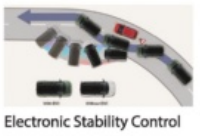

Rear AC vents

Vehicle stability management (VSM)

Wireless phone charger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Height	1,631mm	1,615mm
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Airbags	6 Airbags	2 Airbags
Rear Middle Three Point seatbelt	YES	NO
Hill Hold Control	YES	NO
Traction Control System (TC/TCS)	YES	NO
Anti-glare Mirrors (IRVM)	Electronic	Manual
Alexa Compatibility	YES	NO
Shift Indicator	YES	NO
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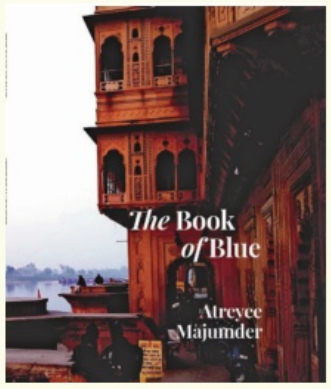
3 THINGS TO DO

01 Poetry reading

Join in for 'Chauraha: A Meeting Place of Four Poets,' an interactive evening of poetry reading and conversations with four Bangalore-based poets: Atreyee Majumder, Mani Rao, Tuhin Bhowal, and Sourav Roy. Spend your Sunday evening with them as they celebrate Majumder's latest book of poems, 'The Book of Blue,' discuss poems, and their inspiration behind writing poems.



Where: Champaca Bookstore
When: June 16, 5 pm

02 Preloved merch

Anaasakti, a not-for-profit concept store, is promoting sustainability through the lens of preloved items. It offers a curated range of precious and treasured preloved items, including apparel, accessories, sarees, heirlooms, jackets, shoes, bags, men's shirts, home decor, and more. Every preloved buy helps save the environment from pollution, water loss, carbon footprint, and general waste.

Where: Namma Ashram, Nallurhalli Main Road
When: Tuesday to Sunday (every week), 11.30 am to 8 pm

03 Lifestyle expo

Explore and shop from the unique and exotic materials spread across 110 stalls prepared by skilled artisans from various parts of the country at 'The Souq Market.'. It is a sale-cum-display of artefacts and handloom materials along with decorative items for gardens, handloom sarees, kurtas, jewellery, rain coats, hosieries and dress materials all under one roof.

Where: Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath
When: Until June 23, 11 am to 7 pm

Fuel price hike sparks public outcry in B'luru

State government increases ₹3 for fuel prices; petrol at ₹102, diesel at ₹88 now

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People queue up to get petrol at a fuel station in this file photo

Usually, the conclusion of elections can be an indication of a new tax levy. Shockingly enough, the Karnataka government announced an immediate increase in petrol and diesel prices, effective from Saturday. The price of petrol has risen by three rupees, bringing the cost per litre in Bengaluru to Rs 102.84, up from Rs 99.84. Diesel prices have similarly increased by Rs 3.02, raising the cost per litre from Rs 85.93 to Rs 88.95.

This hike follows an official notification indicating a revision in the sales tax on petroleum products by the Government of Karnataka, as the sales tax on petrol has been raised from 25.92 per cent to 29.84 per cent and the tax on diesel from 14.3 per cent to 18.4 per cent. As soon as the news of the fuel hike broke out, many rushed to fuel pumps to fill their tanks, resulting in brief queues at a few petrol stations.

However, this price hike has come as a shock to many Bengalureans, who feel that the prices will only increase inflation. Sandesh D, a businessman, said, "The increase in fuel prices directly raises the cost of transportation, affecting both personal commutes and the delivery of goods. As businesses incur higher shipping expenses, they often pass these costs onto consumers, leading to more expensive products and services. There have been talks of an increase in bus fares, although there has been no official confirmation yet. As fuel prices climb, public transportation systems face increased operational costs. If the revision of tickets is done, it will result in higher fares for commuters, making it more expensive for individuals to travel to work, school, and other essential activities, thus reducing their disposable income."

> **"Rise in fuel prices impacts nearly every aspect of production & transportation, leads to general increase in prices across economy** –Daniel Joseph, industrialist

Additionally, this hike will have a significant impact on the agricultural sector, where diesel is essential for operating machinery and transporting crops. Higher fuel costs translate into increased expenses for farmers, which ultimately lead to higher food prices in the market. Daniel Joseph, an industrialist, said that a surge in fuel prices escalates production costs in the manufacturing sector as factories rely on diesel and petrol for power and transportation of raw materials. "When these costs rise, the prices of manufactured goods also increase, affecting everything from electronics to clothing. A rise in fuel prices often triggers a broader inflationary effect. As the cost of energy impacts nearly every aspect of production and transportation, it leads to a general increase in prices across the economy. This diminishes purchasing power, especially for those with fixed incomes and lower economic resilience. Currently, the fuel price increase is from the state government, and as the coalition government has taken over the centre, they will soon present another round of budget, and we need to wait and see if there are any further rounds of increases in prices or not."

Meanwhile, defending the increase in fuel prices, an official from the Finance Department said, "For a long time, the state government wanted to raise the tax as it needs additional revenue to finance the guarantee schemes."

Plastic-free push: Cloth bag dispensers for all

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An initiative aimed at supporting underprivileged women as well as environmental preservation was launched at a mall in the city on Friday. The initiative 'G Bag,' which provides a cloth bag vending machine, is intended to prevent the public from depending on single-use plastic.

As of now, around 70 homemakers who have undergone training in tailoring are expected to benefit from this initiative. Jeevana Kalakuntla, a passionate environmentalist and socially conscious entrepreneur who founded Wild Weft Innovations to address the growing plastic pollution crisis, introduced G Bag with the aim of reducing plastic usage while making eco-friendly alternatives more accessible and affordable to the general public. "Around 70 women have registered with the G Bag project. They will earn some money to support their families. We provide material for stitching cloth bags. Vidya India had arranged training in tailoring for these women," said Kalakuntla, adding that she has a plan to launch cloth vending machines at residential apartments and malls in the future.

A cloth vending machine was inaugurated at a mall in the city on Friday

Speaking with the Bangalore Mirror, Kokila JC, assistant supervisor at Vidya India, said the NGO has been organising tailoring classes for women from economically weaker families at different locations in the city. "We provide basic training in tailoring for women. Some of them are capable of stitching blouses. We utilise anganwadi centres and community halls for training classes," she said.

MV Sadeepa, a homemaker from Immadihalli, said that she can stitch 25 to 30 cloth bags per day during her leisure time. "The money I earn from stitching cloth bags will be a great help for my family. I can earn Rs 150 to Rs 180 per day by stitching cloth bags," said Sadeepa. Shantha Divakaran, president of the Inner Wheel Club, urged the public at the mall to use cloth bags, save the planet, and empower women.

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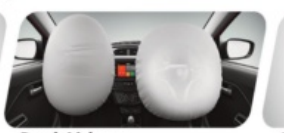

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Grime is ruling roost at Kodigehalli Halt Station

Dirty scenes at important stop for many trains as authorities abandon clean-up work

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The state of the Kodigehalli halt station on the Yelahanka-Yeshwanthpur railway line has been a cause of concern among railway users due to its lack of maintenance and cleanliness. Despite not being a major stop for many trains, users stress the importance of keeping the station well-maintained and hygienic for the convenience and safety of passengers.

Suresh D, a frequent railway user, expressed his disappointment, stating, "The condition of Kodigehalli halt station is appalling. The lack of maintenance is evident with trash strewn around the walls, platforms in disrepair, and uncleaned waiting halls. It's not just an eyesore but also poses health risks to passengers. Many also use this platform for walking with their pets in the mornings and evenings. We have complained to the seniors to clean up the station but have not received any response so far."

Many railway users echo Suresh's sentiments, highlighting the need for regular cleaning and upkeep of the station. Meena Dayal, a resident of Sahakar Nagar said, "It's disheartening to see the state of the station deteriorate. The platforms are often littered with spit stains and trash, making the environment unpleasant for passengers waiting for trains. The uncleanliness of the Kodigehalli halt station is not only a matter of aesthetics but also reflects on the overall experience of railway users. A well-maintained station creates a positive impression and ensures a comfortable journey for passengers. The current state of Kodigehalli halt station falls short of basic cleanliness standards."

Moreover, passengers point out that the lack of maintenance at the station is not just a recent issue but has been persistent over time. Manoj Gowda, a long-time commuter, stated, "I have been using Kodigehalli halt station for years, and unfortunately, the maintenance has always been subpar. It's disappointing to see no improvement despite repeated complaints. Railway authorities are urged to take immediate action to address the maintenance issues at Kodigehalli halt station. There is a need to prioritise cleanliness and maintenance at Kodigehalli halt station. Regular cleaning, repair of platforms and waiting halls, and proper waste disposal are essential for the well-being of passengers." The voices of passengers highlight the importance of addressing these issues promptly to ensure a pleasant and safe travel experience for all commuters.

Uncleaned platforms and scattered trash at Kodigehalli halt station reflect ongoing maintenance issues

> **The lack of maintenance is evident with trash strewn around the walls, platforms in disrepair, and uncleaned waiting halls. It is an eyesore**
> –Suresh D, commuter

Land acquisition delays Carmelaram bridge

Railways urge BBMP to speed up processes to resume work on ROB that can ease traffic congestion

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The construction of the long-awaited Carmelaram Rail Overbridge (ROB) has halted due to delays in land acquisition by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). Started last year to alleviate severe traffic congestion caused by train crossings, the project has stagnated for the past six months, greatly inconveniencing commuters.

The South Western Railway (SWR) has expressed its concerns in a letter to the BBMP, urging them to expedite the land acquisition process. The letter, dated early June, highlights the urgency of the matter. "It was communicated that the land acquisition is minimal, the railways can initiate the tendering process and start the construction of the ROB. It was assured that the land would be handed over shortly. With this assurance, the railways have gone ahead with the tendering and accordingly have taken up the construction activities duly closing the road for 18 months from June 12 onwards. The permission letter for traffic closure is obtained," the SWR stated.

The letter further details the bottleneck caused by the delay. "It is understood that the land acquisition process is yet to be initiated as the TDR notification form 1 has not been issued to date. Despite continuous follow-up with your office, the land acquisition process is not taking off.

FIle photo of Rail Overbridge

The non-availability of the land to the tune of above 2500 sq km at different patches is hindering the work. It can be seen that the delay in land acquisition is having major repercussions on the project as the majority of the activities are affected," the letter added

The SWR has stressed the importance of expediting the land acquisition to avoid contractual disputes and the idling of men, machinery, and materials. The road closure has already forced traffic onto alternative routes, exacerbating the city's traffic woes.

A member of the Mahadevpura Task Force provided insight into the situation, stating, "As the initial step of informing landowners about the properties to be acquired has not been initiated yet, SWR has issued a letter. Despite multiple previous reminders, no action has been taken thus far. This is stopping the work. For the past six months, no work has been initiated. There are 3-4 critical properties that have to be acquired for the work to resume.BBMP had indicated that the land acquisition would be completed within three months. The construction of the ROB would improve the traffic flow." For now, commuters are using the alternative route through Gunjur to connect to the Sarjapur area, which many have stated is also causing traffic congestion on that stretch.

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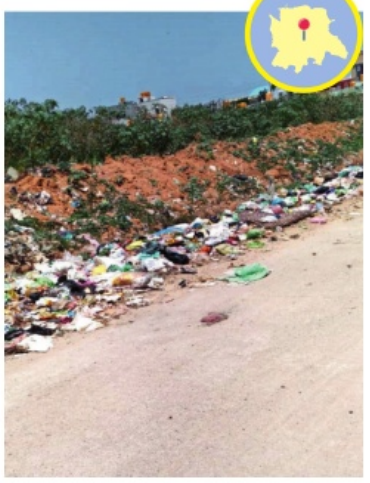
Mud pileup
Rajajinagar

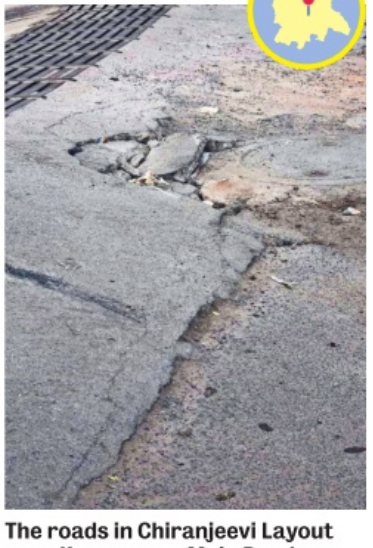
BWSSB has failed to clear the heap of mud after completing their work at Kuvempu Metro Station, 13th Main D-Block, 2nd Stage Rajajinagar. This is causing inconvenience to commuters and pedestrians.

Litter overflow
Krishnarajapuram



Garbage is piling up daily opposite Samuel Public School, Thambu Chetty Palya, with no regular cleaning being done.

Accident prone
Chiranjeevi Layout



The roads in Chiranjeevi Layout near Kempapura Main Road are prone to accidents and require urgent repair to prevent further danger due to potholes.

400 vehicles stolen each month in city

Case in point: How stolen tempo traveller was swiftly traced using CCTV footage and retrieved

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The city is grappling with a significant rise in motor vehicle thefts, with more than 400 vehicles being stolen each month. According to data from the Karnataka State Police, the city has recorded a total of 1,934 motor vehicle thefts this year. Monthly figures indicate that this is a persistent issue, with 512 vehicles stolen in January, 479 in February, 526 in March, and 417 in April.

In a recent case highlighting the city's struggle with vehicle theft, a man was arrested for stealing a Tempo Traveler vehicle valued at 2.5 lakh. The incident took place on Acharya College Road under the jurisdiction of Soladevanahalli Police Station.

The owner of the vehicle had parked it on Acharya College Road on June 1. Upon returning on June 3, around 8 am, he discovered that his vehicle had been stolen. A case was promptly registered at Soladevanahalli Police Station.

The police swiftly began their investigation by reviewing CCTV footage from the area, identifying two suspects. On June 13, one of the suspects was apprehended. The stolen Tempo Traveler was successfully recovered based on information provided by the arrested individual.

During interrogation, it was revealed that the accused, a Tempo Traveler driver, had stolen the vehicle with the intention of using it himself. However, the key perpetrator in this case remains at large, and the investigation continues.

City has recorded 1,934 cases of motor vehicle thefts so far this year

The team that made the arrest was led by Saidulu Adavat, Deputy Commissioner of Police, North Division, Mary Shailaja, ACP, Yeshwantpur Sub Division, and Hariappa H, Police Inspector, Soladevanahalli Police Station.

The arrested individual was produced before the court this Friday.

Will appear before CID on Monday, says BSY

Former Karnataka Chief Minister and senior BJP leader BS Yediyurappa announced on Saturday that he will present himself before the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) on June 17. This is in connection with allegations under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act involving the sexual assault of a minor girl.

Upon arriving in the city, Yediyurappa addressed the media, suggesting that those orchestrating conspiracies against him would face repercussions from the public. He told reporters at the airport, "I went to Delhi as part of a scheduled program. I have already informed that I would come for trial on the 17th of this month. The High Court has also issued an injunction. I am going to the trial on Monday. They did the work of causing unnecessary confusion. "I am not complaining to anyone. Time will decide everything. People know what the truth is. Those who are doing tricks, the people will teach them a lesson."

The High Court had on Friday restrained the CID from arresting him in relation to the POCSO case.

Reporter assaulted, robbed outside court

A reporter was assaulted and robbed outside the court hall at the Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court complex on Nrupathunga Road at 5.30 pm on Saturday.

The 23-year-old reporter with The New Indian Express, Rakshith Gowda, was covering a hearing related to the murder of Renuka Swamy, in which Kannada actor Darshan is a prime accused. While waiting for the proceedings, four unidentified men confronted Rakshith, questioning his identity. Upon learning he was a journalist, they assaulted him, dragged him for about 50 metres, and snatched his mobile phone. Despite seeking help from nearby police officers, they did not intervene. Rakshith reported the assault to the Halasuru Gate police station. Deputy Commissioner of Police (West), HT Shekhar, responded promptly, ensuring Rakshith's phone was retrieved and an investigation was initiated. The DCP stated that CCTV footage from the court would be reviewed to identify the attackers. The Advocates' Association of Bengaluru condemned the attack. **BMB**

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Doctor-patient boundary breached

Patient vulnerability shouldn't be used as weapon by doctors: Karnataka High Court rejects doctor's plea to quash sexual harassment charge

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The High Court of Karnataka has dismissed a petition filed by a doctor who sought to quash an offence registered against him under Section 354A (Sexual Harassment) by a patient.

A single judge bench of Justice M Nagaprasanna said, "A doctor by profession has access to the body of the patient. If the access is utilised for the purpose of healing, it is an altogether different circumstance and a divine act. If it is utilised for some other feeling, it would clearly become an advance, which would attract Section 354A of the IPC."

The complainant, complaining of chest pain, visited Orbsky Hospital in JP Nagar 7th Phase, where the petitioner was the duty doctor. He treated the complainant, suggested she undergo an ECG and an X-ray of the chest, and informed her to share the details on his WhatsApp. Following the exchange of numbers, the said reports were forwarded by the complainant to the doctor on WhatsApp. On seeing the reports, the petitioner directed the complainant to visit his personal clinic (Prasiddhi Clinic) at about 2 pm on March 21, 2024. The complainant then visited the clinic, where it is said that the doctor was alone, who then examined her by checking her heartbeat by placing the stethoscope on her breasts. He further directed the complainant to pull up her clothes. It is alleged that the doctor started to touch her breast and even kissed her left breast. The complainant then informed her family members regarding the matter after leaving the clinic.

However, the petitioner held that he was only performing his duty as a doctor and held the stethoscope on the breast of the complainant as the examination was on congestion in the chest. It was also argued that the other allegations of using his hands and mouth are false and must not be accepted.

The bench further stated that a doctor should remember that patients seek their help when they are in a vulnerable state, sick, needy, and uncertain about what needs to be done. The unequal distribution of power in the doctor-patient relationship may give rise to opportunities for sexual exploitation. "This vulnerability should not be used as a weapon by the doctors, misusing the trust the patient reposes in them. Due to this position of power and trust between the doctor and a patient, no alleged sexual activity by the doctor on the patient is acceptable. If it happens or is alleged to have happened, it represents sexual abuse. If any act of this kind emerges even as an allegation, the relationship of trust between the doctor and a patient gets eroded," it added.

The HC noted that certain guidelines exist for doctors on sexual boundaries, as notified on the website of the Indian Medical Council. The guidelines set by the Indian Psychiatric Society Task Force state that whenever a female patient is being examined by a male practitioner, the presence of a female person, particularly at the time of physical examination, must be ensured. In accordance with this, the court said, "The petitioner-doctor has prima facie violated all the above. Therefore, an investigation, at the very least, should be permitted to be continued."

> **"Due to position of power, trust between doctor & patient, no alleged sexual activity by doctor on patient is acceptable** –HC bench

High Court extends interim protection to Bhavani Revanna

The Karnataka High Court has extended anticipatory bail granted to JDS suspended MP Prajwal Revanna's mother, Bhavani Revanna, in a kidnapping case related to the obscene video case.

Justice Krishna S Dixit heard the petition filed by Bhavani on Friday. The bench, headed by Dixit, completed the arguments and reserved the verdict. The court ordered the extension of interim anticipatory bail granted earlier until the next order.

Earlier on June 7, the HC granted anticipatory bail to Bhavani in the case. The petitioner attended the hearing for three days, as ordered by the court. The petitioner said, "Bhavani is not cooperating with the investigation. Everything is false information. No correct answer is given to any question. She is the main accused in the whole case. She played an important role in the abduction of the victim. In case of non-cooperation, she should be detained and interrogated. Therefore, already-granted anticipatory bail should be cancelled."

In this case, the bench asked the investigation authority to explain the reason for which the detention should be conducted. "Advocates for Bhavani and the petitioners are appearing before the investigating officers and are cooperating with the police in every way. Therefore, there is no need to make an arrest," the bench said. "Also, arresting and interrogating in this manner means that all the accused will have to be sent to police custody," it added.

— ANI

High Court takes suo moto action on rising jumbo deaths

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BANGALORE IMPACT MIRROR

The Karnataka High Court has taken a suo moto case on the rise in elephant mortality cases in Karnataka due to electrocution and other unnatural causes. HC exercised its jurisdiction based on an article published in the Bangalore Mirror on June 13.

The report highlighted that four elephants in the state have died due to electrocution in just the last month. Based on the report, the court has observed that elephants and other wildlife in the state and the country are assets. They deserve protection and care for their health and lives, and the authorities have corresponding statutory duties. "Whether inside or outside the sanctuary, the elephants and other wildlife would need care. Their safety is to be ensured at all costs by keeping vigil and taking appropriate measures. The forest and other authorities owe a statutory duty in this regard. Their exposure to electrocution or other unnatural causes of death has to be prevented," noted HC on Friday.

The court has thus sent notices to the Union of India through the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change; the Chief Secretary to the Government of Karnataka; the Department of Forest, Ecology, and Environment of Karnataka; the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Chief Wildlife Warden of Karnataka Forest Department; and the Divisional Forest Officer of Mysuru, asking the authorities to respond by putting forward facts and figures in the matter.

All the above authorities have been directed to submit their response regarding the steps and measures that are presently taken to ensure the safety and protection of elephants and other wildlife assets in Karnataka, along with ways that the authorities use to fix the liability of officers when such kinds of deaths of elephants and wildlife occur. Apart from that, the court has also sought clarity on steps proposed to be taken in the future in light of the repeated elephant deaths occurring and reported so as to prevent such instances of unnatural deaths. "Elephants and wildlife have the right to live in a safe environment, not to die an unnatural death, as they stand under statutory protection. The successive and repeated incidents of elephant deaths in the state in different areas due to electrocution or other unnatural causes is a serious matter to worry about. The report reflects that the incidents take place due to a lack of diligence on the part of the authorities concerned in charge of ensuring safety measures for the elephants in particular and the wildlife in general," noted the HC order copy.

Citing the death of Ashwathama recently in Mysuru, the BM report also stated that Karnataka has 47 cases of unnatural deaths and lost 35 jumbos to electrocution between January 2021 and now (June 12, 2024).

BangaloreMirror

FELL IN HIS PRIME: JUMBO DEATH LEAVES ALL SHOCKED

Ashwathama is the latest to fall victim to what conservationists are calling sheer carelessness on part of authorities

BM's report on June 13

THE SUNDAY READ

Downfall of demigods

A look at legal, criminal issues that cast dark shadow over celebrities' lives

| Sridhar Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Film stars are often 'worshipped' as demigods, but sometimes these on-screen heroes become real-life villains, entangled in numerous controversies. Bangalore Mirror delves into the tumultuous histories of various film celebrities, examining how past scandals have impacted their stardom and influenced their fan base.

Challenging Star

Darshan, once celebrated as a mass hero, has recently been in the spotlight for negative reasons. Despite his earlier successes, his career has been overshadowed by controversies and serious legal issues, including multiple police complaints. His reckless statements and unnecessary criticism have only fuelled these controversies, leading to a media boycott with many reporters earlier stating, "We won't report on Darshan's news anymore."

In 2011, Darshan was accused of assaulting his wife, Vijayalakshmi. He was arrested initially but later released after Vijayalakshmi withdrew her complaint. In 2018, Darshan was allegedly involved in a car accident in Mysuru and faced allegations of negligent driving. The year 2023 saw two separate cases filed against Darshan. On January 20, he was accused of illegally possessing a rare bird species. Later, on January 28, his dog allegedly bit a woman, resulting in another legal case. In 2024, yet another case was filed against Darshan and his team for organising a loud party at a pub, which violated noise pollution regulations.

Celebrities in soup

Some notable cases include Bollywood figures like Mamata Kulkarni, Rhea Chakraborty, and Fardeen Khan allegedly being implicated in drug-related cases. Suraj Pancholi was also allegedly linked in the Zia Khan suicide case, while Shiney Ahuja faced criminal charges of rape. Stars like Madhur Bhandarkar, Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Twinkle Khanna, Sonali Bendre, and Tamil comedian Srinivasan were also involved in controversies.

Salman Khan

Salman Khan, a prominent Bollywood actor, has been notably involved in several criminal cases. One such case is the Blackbuck hunting \case of 1998, where Salman Khan was accused of hunting three blackbucks in the villages of Bhavda and Mathania. Additionally, during the investigation of the blackbuck case, it was discovered that Salman Khan had illegal arms, including a rifle and a pistol. Another case involving Salman Khan is the hit-and-run case of 2002, where he was accused of driving his car over people sleeping on the sidewalk in Bandra.

Sanjay Dutt

The criminal controversy surrounding Sanjay Dutt revolves around his involvement in the 1993 Mumbai serial blasts case, a tragic event that claimed the lives of 257 people. During the investigation of the Mumbai blasts case, it was revealed that actor Sanjay Dutt possessed illegal weapons. He was later sentenced and sent to jail.

Jitendra

Hindi film star Jitendra also found himself embroiled in a criminal controversy involving sexual assault allegations. The incident took place at a hotel room in Shimla, where Jitendra was accused by his cousin of inappropriate behavior.

Shine Tom Chacko

Malayalam actor Shine Tom Chacko found himself entangled in a criminal controversy related to a drug trafficking case in 2015. He was accused of possessing and distributing drugs in collaboration with four women at a hotel in Kochi. The actor spent 15 days in jail in connection with these allegations.

Monica Bedi

Popular Bollywood actress Monica Bedi, known for her roles in the 90s, faced a criminal controversy involving a fake passport and connections with the underworld. In 1993, she was linked to Abu Salem, a notorious gangster, in connection with the Mumbai bomb blast case. She was sentenced to five years in jail in 2005 for her role in the fake passport case and her association with the Mumbai bomb blast. Additionally, she faced a 2-year sentence in a Portuguese jail.

SRK

Shah Rukh Khan, often hailed as the "King Khan" of Bollywood, faced criminal controversies that affected his reputation. In 2002, he was accused of misbehaving with the staff of the Mumbai Cricket Association at the Wankhede Stadium, leading to allegations of assault. Additionally, he was arrested for causing property damage at the Kota railway station during the filming of the movie 'Raees'. These incidents not only tarnished his image but also resulted in legal repercussions for the actor.

John Abraham

In 2006, John Abraham, renowned for his passion for motorcycles, became embroiled in a criminal controversy. He faced accusations of reckless driving that led to an accident causing injuries to two individuals. As a result of this offence, John Abraham was sentenced to 15 days in jail.

Maria Susairaj

In 2008, Kannada actress Maria Susairaj found herself entangled in a severe criminal controversy involving the murder of Neeraj Grover, a TV producer.

Alongside her husband, Emile Matthew, Maria was accused of orchestrating the murder, which resulted in the victim's body being dismembered into 300 pieces and burned in a bag in a forest. The relationship between Maria and Neeraj had initially developed through a TV audition but had deteriorated over time.

Allegedly, Maria and her husband conspired to commit the heinous crime after the relationship soured. Subsequently, they were apprehended, arrested, and charged with murder.

Worship syndrome

At times, when our favourite celebrities face challenges or make mistakes, it can be disheartening for fans. Psychologists refer to this as 'Celebrity Worship Syndrome', a phenomenon more common in India as compared to other countries. "When something unfortunate happens to our beloved stars, such as their passing or encountering difficulties, we often experience a deep sense of sorrow without fully realising it. Our strong emotions come to the surface, and we mourn the loss or the negative event. In such instances, it's vital to maintain a composed state of mind. Regardless of our level of admiration for a celebrity, we should strive to remain calm and rational. It's important to distance ourselves from any excessive obsession and exercise discernment. We must acknowledge that celebrities, despite their status, are human beings prone to making mistakes," said a psychologist. The psychologist advised fans to cultivate a healthy perspective and not allow their emotions to overpower them.

Custody extended to June 20

A Bengaluru court has extended the police custody of Kannada actors Darshan Thoogudeepa and Pavithra Gowda until June 20, following their initial remand until June 16. The two actors are implicated in the murder of Renukaswamy, a Chitradurga resident.

Darshan was detained from his Mysuru farmhouse on June 11 and taken to Bengaluru for interrogation. He is alleged to have been involved in the murder of Renukaswamy, who reportedly sent offensive messages to Pavithra Gowda.

The investigation has led to the arrest of 16 individuals, including Pavan, Vinay, Pradosh, Nandeesha, Deepak, Lakshman, Nagaraju, Karthik, Nikhil, Keshavmurthy, Raghavendra, Anu Kumar, Jagadish, and Ravi. Authorities claim that Renukaswamy, a devoted fan of Darshan, was abducted, transported to Bengaluru, confined in a shed, and tortured to death by Darshan and his associates. CCTV footage purportedly shows Darshan's vehicle near the crime scene on the night of the murder.

The crime was uncovered when Keval Ram Dorji, a security guard at Anugraha Apartment, discovered Renukaswamy's body near a drain in Kamakshipalya. Police have filed an FIR under sections 302 (murder) and 201 (concealing evidence).

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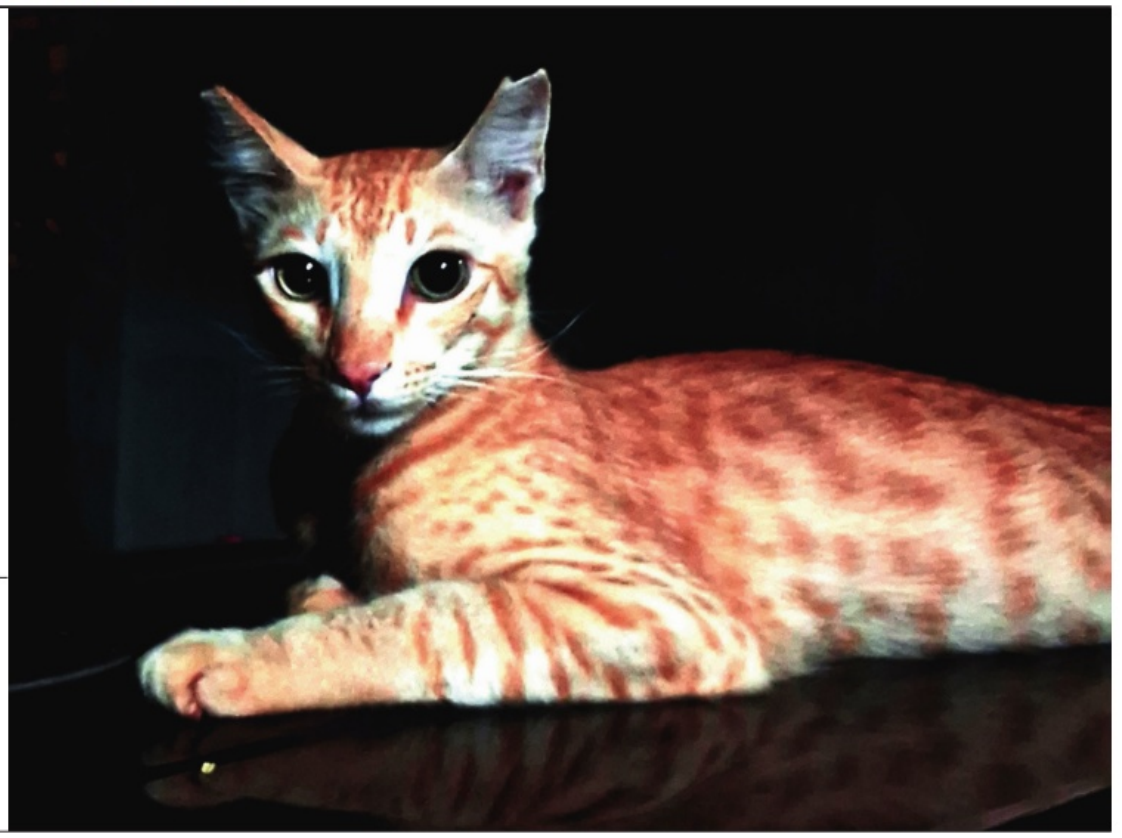
BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

Natural element

A feline model strikes a pose



The picture was clicked by BM reader **Samarth Shrivastava**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

Why are parks still shut?

Citizens across demographics express disappointment over limited access to essential recreational spaces despite govt orders

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Despite Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar's assurances that parks in the city would be open to the public, many of them remain closed during afternoons. This has sparked discussions among citizens who question the reasons behind limited access to these recreational spaces.

Moorthy, a senior citizen, expressed his disappointment: "Since the announcement, I have been checking the parks, but they remain closed during the afternoon. Parks should remain open throughout the day because it will facilitate people to relax anytime, particularly senior citizens and labourers who work hard all day."

Sudarshan Rao, another senior citizen, emphasised the importance of parks: "Parks are essential for our well-being, especially in the quieter afternoons, which are more suitable for exercise and relaxation. It's disappointing to see them closed during this time as it limits our opportunities for outdoor activities."

Sripriya Kumar, a college student, highlighted her need for relaxation: "As someone with a busy schedule, I value the opportunity to unwind during lunch breaks or after work. Having parks open throughout the day allows me to enjoy nature and de-stress."

The park near BHEL Colony, shuts down at 11 am, despite Minister DK Shivakumar's directive to keep all parks in Bengaluru open throughout the day

Concerns were also voiced by parents like Devika Patel, who said: "Parks provide a safe environment for children to play and socialise. With schools and activities filling their schedules, the afternoon slot is ideal for family outings and bonding. It's disheartening when parks are closed during these hours."

Fitness enthusiasts, such as Anjum Khan, find the closures inconvenient: "I prefer jogging in the afternoon to avoid crowded mornings and evenings. Parks offer a conducive environment for physical activity, and it's disappointing when they are shut during my preferred exercise time."

Moreover, fitness enthusiasts and joggers find it inconvenient when parks are inaccessible during afternoons. Anjum Khan, a regular park visitor, said, "The debate over park timings underscores the value of these green spaces in urban environments. Residents, officials, and experts all agree that parks play a vital role in enhancing quality of life, promoting well-being, and fostering community connections. Opening parks in the afternoon is crucial for meeting city dwellers' diverse needs and ensuring fair access to recreational facilities"

DID YOU KNOW?

Karnataka's history proudly showcases the courageous tale of Rani Chennamma, also known as Kittur Chennamma, the queen of the princely state of Kittur. Decades before Rani Laxmibai rose to prominence, Rani Chennamma boldly confronted British colonial power. She led a fierce armed rebellion against the East India Company, notably resisting the imposition of the Kappa tax. Her defiance remains a significant chapter in India's fight against colonial rule, symbolising her unwavering determination and leadership in the face of adversity.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR 9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

Why should parks be open throughout the day and how would it benefit citizens

Shivani, BM reader
Public parks are crucial communal spaces that offer invaluable benefits to people of all ages. Addressing safety concerns, which Shilpa Phadke discusses in her book "Why Loiter," underscores the shift towards prioritising park safety over ensuring open access. By enhancing security measures, parks can operate round-the-clock.

Sandra Saji, BM reader
Having parks open around the clock really benefits a lot of us. For working parents, it's a chance to unwind with their kids after a long day. Families can have quality time together, and even those of us who work late nights can take our pets out or study in a quieter setting.

Tanya Saji, BM reader
Public parks play a crucial role in clearing my mind. They provide a common ground where I can find inner peace and feel more at ease. The availability of parks throughout the day benefits not only specific age groups but also fosters community connections with neighbours.

Arya, BM reader
Beyond personal relaxation, extending park hours can also benefit those who depend on random foot traffic, like the vendors selling peanuts or balloons. With parks accessible 24/7, they have more opportunities to connect with customers throughout the day and expand their business.

Sankar, BM reader
There are definitely pros and cons to having parks open all day. On the positive side, people can enjoy activities like walking and playing whenever they want. However, safety concerns and the presence of intoxicated individuals are potential drawbacks. Safety measures can mitigate these risks.

SPEAK TO US

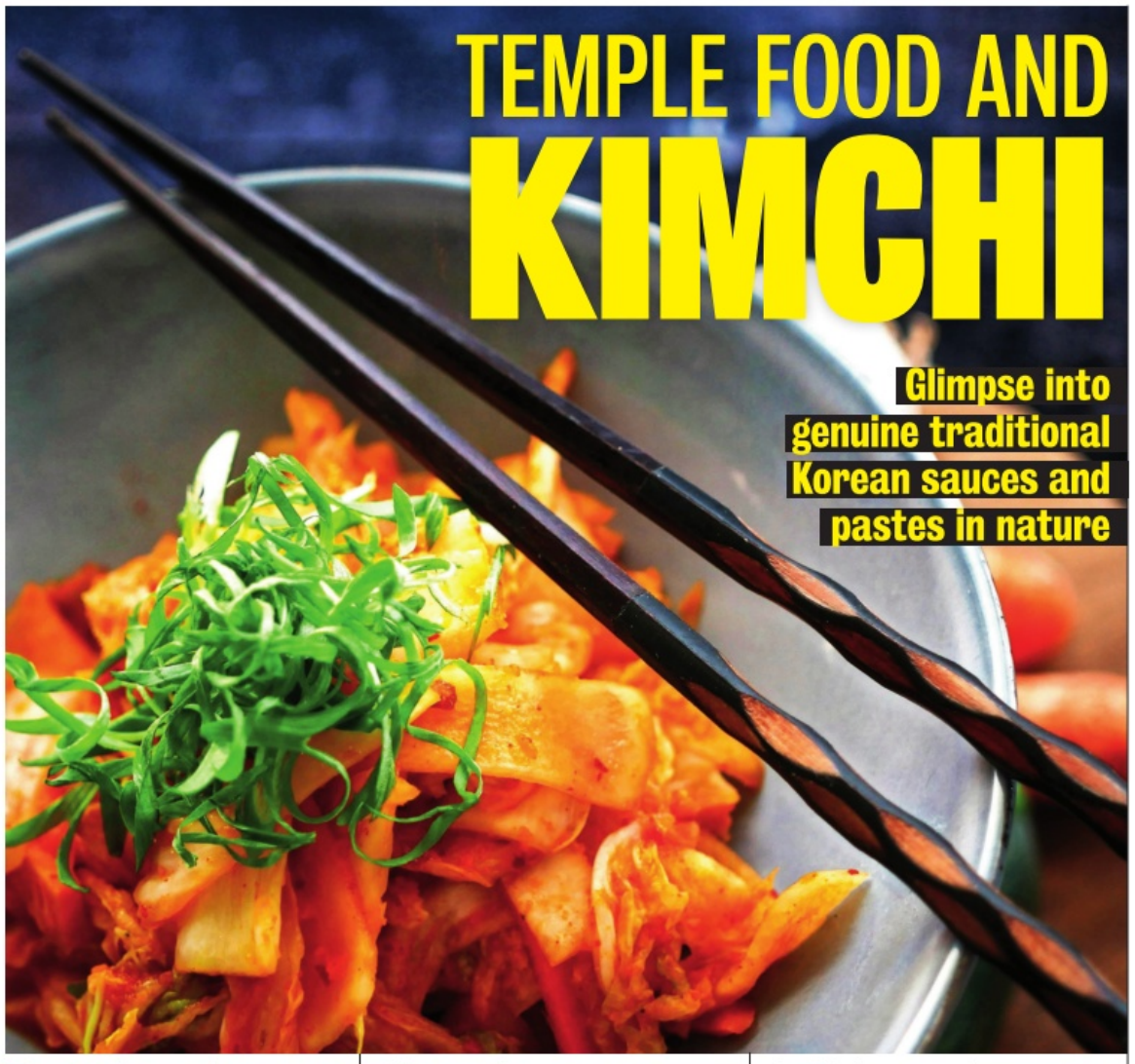
Can you give some tips which you follow to save power in your house?

If you want to be featured in this section tomorrow, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, by 5 pm today, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation and a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

HEALTH TIP: Eating a healthy diet can reduce the negative effects of stress on your body, building a stronger immune and nervous system

High amounts of caffeine can lead to the negative health effects associated with prolonged elevated levels of cortisol

TEMPLE FOOD AND KIMCHI



Glimpse into genuine traditional Korean sauces and pastes in nature

It was with renewed attention and mindfulness to nature-based lifestyle and environment -- after the COVID-19 pandemic -- that we visited Ven. Sunjae's residence in this town about two hours east of Seoul. The nation's first Master of Korean Temple Food had mentioned that she held temple food classes in her residence, which she referred to as "togul" or "cave."

The bikhuni monk, renowned for her tireless schedule of lecturing in Korea and overseas, was giving monthly classes on making kimchi on that early June day. The class was about making not just one but five types of kimchi.

The five were a watery kudzu vine kimchi, a small radish and cabbage kimchi with emphasis on using watermelon water, a cube-type radish kimchi, a kimchi with soybean water and a cucumber kimchi with Zanthoxylum piperitum that smells highly like coriander.

The kudzu vine kimchi was good for enhancing estrogen, Ven. Sunjae explained, while the watermelon was recommended as summer food helpful for reducing thirst and helping with urination. The Zanthoxylum piperitum is used for its strong flavor, which traditionally was used before the arrival of red chili pepper into Korea. For this temple food kimchi, the five common Korean ingredients -- garlic, green onions, leeks, wild chives and Chinese squill -- are not used. Neither are salted fish or shrimp, found in most regions of Korea.

Once the mountain of main vegetables were sliced up and salted, they were then poured into a large, circular steel bowl filled with a small amount of vegetable water, "tongmiljuk," or wheat porridge, dried chili pepper and soy sauce. Then the monk mixed them up using both hands in a wide circular motion about 20 to 30 times.

In one of her books, "Temple Food Weaved through Ven. Sunjae's Narrative," she highlights kimchi as comprising the six flavours of food -- sweet, salty, sour, bitter, chilly and astringent -- crucial to health.

"Kimchi has all the good elements. A food material produced under the soil, radish; food source produced above soil, cabbage and calyptra; one-year plants, pepper and sticky rice porridge: multi-year products, fruit; and food source produced in the sea, sea staghorn, dashima and salt."

Seasonally minding to take in kimchi could improve the health, she wrote. This food practice was a given in past Korean households, but not so in today's Korea. She worked speedily, completing the final stages of the five kimchi in about two hours. The ingredients were all prepared beforehand.

Ven. Sunjae rapidly gave instructions, and the students asked even the smallest details such as how to slice the vegetables or when to start the rice for lunch. It's a signal of resonance that she inspires in people around her -- respect or compassion, hope and healing --; through her food.

For anyone who makes food, Ven. Sunjae agreed to share the kimchi recipes. "But they may need my soy sauce," she said with a twinkle in her eye. Her students appraised her temple food cooking as traditionalist, with emphasis on self-prepared soy sauce "ganjang" and soybean paste "doenjang."

The two sauces of ganjang and doenjang, along with "gochujang" or red chili pepper paste, are pillars in Korean food as a whole. Throughout her monastic life that began in 1980, she has been conveying temple food, its methods and recipes to help people attend to body and mind before and after ailments. Personally, her 1994 diagnosis with hepatic cirrhosis drove her work too.

While generally gentle and easy-mannered, she is firm on what temple food is. Can we see it as vegan? Temple food is not automatically translatable to vegan, Ven. Sunjae said. "The Korean temple food is 'seonsik,'" the food that monks consume for sustenance and for practice. How should people find it as tasty and resist temptations of modern-day cuisines at Korea's numerous restaurants? "We need to change the mindset, then temple food will come across as palatable," she said. She said she has never really registered the fact that her town of residence has numerous restaurants serving "haejangguk" or hearty meat broth with rice and vegetables. "I have not really entertained the thought of eating them. I know how they are made," she said. Buddhist teachings have taught her that every food is medicine and there are living organisms even in one drop of water. "In eating temple food, you are imbibing life, health and wisdom," she said.

This wisdom is knowing the nature of the food ingredients and knowing the state of one's health and finding or trying to find the right match between the two. It could mean a sense of humility in realizing that people are dependent on nature for their food, respecting the work that goes into making food without artificial ingredients and taking only what one needs.

—Story and recipe credit: The Korea Times

PURE WATERMELON JUICE-BASED BABY RADISH AND MIXED CABBAGE KIMCHI

INGREDIENTS

- one bundle of baby radish
- one bundle of mixed cabbage
- one-fourth of a watermelon, ground to juice without the seeds
- soy sauce, salt, red chili pepper, whole wheat porridge ("tongmiljuk" or whole wheat powder porridge), vegetable-based soup (dashima or kelp, radish, dried shiitake mushrooms)

METHOD

- Wash the young radish and mixed cabbage and leave it with salt for a while. Next, juice the watermelon and then pour in all the whole wheat porridge, vegetable soup, soy sauce, salt and ground red chili pepper to complete a kimchi sauce. Then toss the salted radish and mixed cabbage together gently.

All you need to know about...

Hot weather & migraines

Rising risk

Scientists have found a link between increased headaches and hot temperatures for individuals with migraines, saying that as temperatures rise, so do chances for migraine attacks.

Trigger factor

Weather change is one of the most common trigger factors for migraine, said Vincent Martin, director of the Headache and Facial Pain Center at the US-based University of Cincinnati.

The study looked at the use of Fremanezumab drug and whether it could prevent headaches caused by high temperatures.

Fremanezumab is administered by injection under the skin and is part of a set of monoclonal antibodies that have hit the market in the past six years to treat migraine in patients.

Researchers cross-referenced 71,030 daily diary records of 660 migraine patients with regional weather data and found that for every temperature increase of 0.12 degrees Celsius, there was a 6 per cent increase in the occurrence of any headache. However, during the periods of Fremanezumab treatment, the association completely disappeared.

Drug therapy

"This study is the first to suggest that migraine-specific therapies that block Calcitonin Gene-Related Peptide (CGRP) may treat weather-associated headaches," said Fred Cohen, a study co-author and assistant professor of medicine at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York.

If the results are confirmed in future studies, the drug therapy has the potential to help many people with weather-triggered migraine.

Hippocrates, the father of medicine, believed that weather and medicine were intimately linked. "A couple thousand of years later, we are proving that weather matters in human health," said Al Peterlin, who retired as chief meteorologist at the US Department of Agriculture and co-author of the study.

—IANS

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I Nandeesha S C S/o Chandresha Gowda, R/at # 30,G Singapura Village, Bhalighatta Post, Melukote Hobali, Pandavapura Taluk, Mandya Dist, Karnataka-571431 have changed my name to Nandeesh S C for all purposes

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Plea in SC seeks scrapping of NEET-UG exam

Court-monitored CBI probe sought into alleged irregularities in test held on May 5

A plea has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking scrapping of the NEET-UG 2024 exam and an apex court-monitored probe by the CBI or any other independent agency into the alleged irregularities in the test held on May 5.

The petition, filed by 20 students who had appeared for the medical entrance exam, has also sought a direction to the National Testing Agency (NTA) and others to conduct the test afresh.

While hearing separate petitions raising grievances over the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate)-2024, the apex court on Friday had sought responses from the Centre and the NTA on a plea for a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into allegations of question paper leak and other irregularities in the exam.

The fresh plea stated that in view of "rampant irregularities and fraudulent practices", re-examination would only help in short-listing deserving students to get admission in medical institutions.

"Because the sanctity of the examination is questionable in view of the confirmed cases of leakage of question paper, with respect to which FIRs have been lodged and several persons have been arrested, as per the media reports," the plea, drawn by advocate Dheeraj Singh, said.

Students clash with security personnel during a protest over the NEET-UG exam issue, in Patna, Saturday

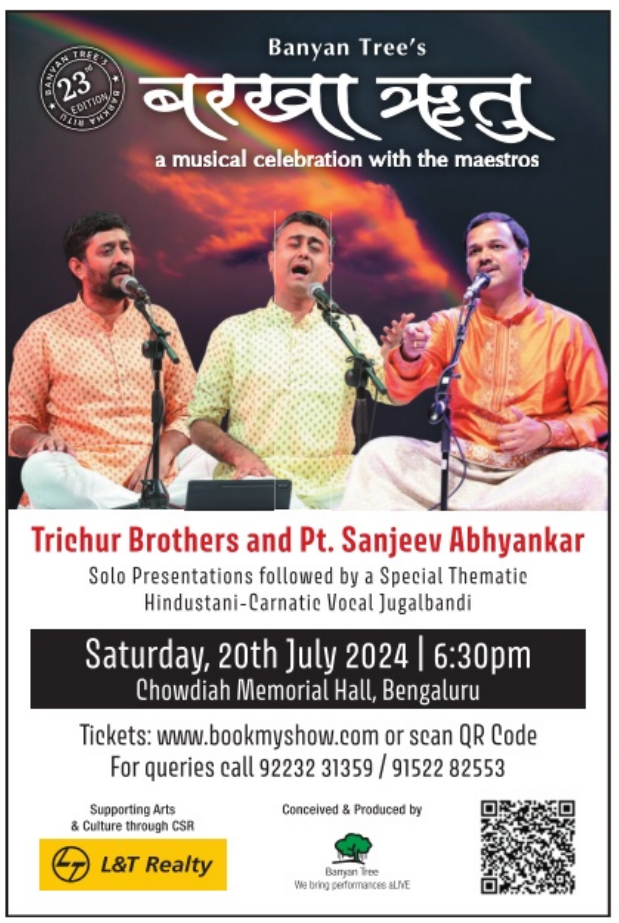
As many as 67 students scored a perfect 720, unprecedented in the NTA's history, with six from a centre in Haryana's Faridabad figuring in the list, raising suspicions about irregularities.

It said the result declared by the NTA disclosed that 67 candidates have scored the maximum possible marks 720 out of 720. A closer analysis would also reveal an extraordinary significant increase of more than 400 per cent in the number of students scoring 620-720 marks, the plea stated.

"The aforesaid material irregularities are required to be investigated thoroughly by CBI or by any other independent agency or committee under the supervision of this court so as to do justice to the large number of meritorious students whose claims have been defeated by systemic failure to ensure conduct of fair examination," it said.

The plea has sought a direction to a court-appointed committee or any other independent agency to conduct "post-exam analysis including academic background check, forensic analysis and investigate all such candidates who have scored 620 and above", under the supervision of the court.

It has also sought directions to the NTA and others to take effective steps to ensure transparency and fairness in the examination process and to address the concerns pertaining to alleged fraudulent practices, leakage of question papers, impersonation, unfair means etc in NEET-UG in the future. **PTI**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Muddy road leads to school

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

abandoned. Now, whenever it rains, people slip and fall. Parents coming to the centre to drop their children on two-wheelers skid on the road and fall. The vehicle is not able to reach the centre from the main road and children have to walk to school. There is also an open well on the same stretch posing a risk to the students. Now, BWSSB has dug up a stretch and work has been ongoing for the past nine months. Despite multiple appeals to officials and politicians, there hasn't been any effect on the ground," said Sarbani Mallick, founder director of Bubbles Centre of Autism.

According to Mallick, all the roads surrounding the area have been asphalted but this particular stretch has been ignored.

Bubbles Centre of Autism was started in 2009 for children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder between the age group of 3 – 15 years. The school has 55 children enrolled and 21 staff as part of its team.

Parents question why authorities can't even asphalt 250-300m stretch and alleviate their suffering.

"This is the only road to reach the institute and is far from the main road. The mud road is just 250-300m long and it's a task to cross the road during the rainy season. I have been facing issues for the past four years and every year nearly 4-5 months commuting through these areas is very difficult. All vehicles including cars find it difficult to cross the area and it's impossible to use a two-wheeler," said Sunil, parent of a child at the school.

For Prerna, another parent, who has just moved to Bengaluru a few months ago, the centre is at a walkable distance from home.

"We took a house close to the school. Ideally, it's only a 10-minute walk, but the stretch becomes unwalkable during the rainy season," Prerna said.

BBMP Zonal Commissioner (Mahadevapura) Dakshayini K told BM that work will be taken up after BWSSB completes the work.

"We can't take up work if there is ongoing BWSSB work, Once, it's completed, we will take up the asphalting work," she added.

BWSSB officials noted that their work will be completed by July 15. "We are laying down sewage pipelines for the 110 villages added to BBMP. We have provided a safe commute space for the school. We will complete the work by July 15," said a BWSSB official.

 # Sure thing
Actor Kieran Culkin shared that he was not sure about pursuing his career until halfway through 'Succession' season one

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Village visit

Sunny Leone shoots for upcoming film in Karnataka, visits village school

Actress Sunny Leone, who is awaiting the release of her upcoming film 'Quotation Gang', is currently shooting for her next project in Karnataka.

The actress recently went to a small village named Kabbali to visit a local school. A video, which has surfaced on social media, features that upon the actress' arrival to the school, the students were thrilled to see her.

The video shows her exploring classrooms, playing games, and taking pictures with the students.

Meanwhile, on the work front, Sunny has 'Quotation Gang' on the horizon. She will be seen alongside Priyamani of 'The Family Man' fame and Jackie Shroff in the film. She essays the role of a rural mafia member in 'Quotation Gang'.

The film features her as an assassin who is a key member of a ruthless gang, which specialises in contract killings.

She also has auteur Anurag Kashyap's 'Kennedy' in the pipeline. The film premiered at the Cannes Film Festival last year and is set for a theatrical release soon. Additionally, she has an untitled film with Himesh Reshammiya and Prabhudeva in the works. Her upcoming Malayalam project is currently in production. —IANS

All elements of entertainment, some a bit of a drag

Director Chetan Keshav has tried to entertain the audiences with all elements in the film, but its run time plays spoilsport. The movie has love, sentiments, action, and comedy but too many flashbacks and action sequences test audiences' patience. Comedy by Sadhu Kokila and others is tame and can hardly evince a laugh. In fact a few comedy scenes – especially the scene where employees vie among themselves to welcome their boss (Sadhu Kokila) and the scene where the boss poses along with a female model during a photo shoot – do not serve purpose and are a drag for the audience.

The movie is about Jai (Vasishta N Simha), a reformed gangster. When Jai visits a hospital to donate blood, Janani (Stefy Patel), a volunteer, falls in love with him. The more Jai tries to keep her at an arm's distance the more Janani comes closer to him. Janani goes against her parents' wishes and marries Jai. They have a baby girl and everything seems to be going well, when Janani faints while walking with husband Jai and daughter Thanu. Janani tests positive for HIV. Jai finds out who the culprit is. What happens to Janani and the culprit is what the movie Love Li is all about.

As far as the performance of the actors is concerned, Vasishta Simha plays the lead that has two shades. His performance, as a ruthless gangster, lover, lovely husband and affectionate father, is very good. Stefy Patel looks beautiful and graceful. Veteran actor Dattatreya is at his best. His performance in a hospital scene melts your heart. Baby Vanshika has acted well. Malavika Avinash and Achyuth Kumar provide good support.

Despite the drawbacks, this film is worth a watch.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

LOVE LI
2.5 RATING ★★½☆☆
- **DIRECTOR** Chetan Keshav
- **ACTORS** Vasishta N Simha, Stefy Patel, Achyuth Kumar, Malavika Avinash, Sadhu Kokila, HG Dattatreya
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **Duration** 168 minutes

Questions for the new dad

As Varun Dhawan dropped a series of dapper pictures of himself, fans started demanding to see the first picture of his newborn daughter.

Varun on Saturday, took to his Instagram account to share a series of pictures.

In the first picture, the Bhediya actor can be seen in a white tee, sitting in the driver's seat, about to step out of the car.

In the second picture, he can be seen smiling at the camera while holding a pack of popcorn.

His fans immediately flooded the comments section with praise, calling him the 'hottest dad' with fire and heart emojis.

Others eagerly asked when they would see pictures of his daughter and inquired about her well-being.

"Varun, when can we see the first pic of our princess?" asked one fan. Another inquired, "How's the babygirl?" Yet another wondered, "Did Joey meet his little sister?"

Meanwhile, on the work front, Varun will be seen in the upcoming action thriller film 'Baby John'.'Baby John' is directed by A Kaleeswaran. Atlee is presenting the film in association with Jio Studios and Cine1 Studios.

He will also be seen in the Indian adaptation of the Hollywood series 'Citadel' opposite actor Samantha Ruth Prabhu. —ANI

Two left feet

Sonali Bendre has recently opened up about how Saroj Khan wanted to 'kill her' while they were filming for 'English Babu Desi Mem'.

The 1996 release featured Shah Rukh Khan and Sonali Bendre in the lead roles. Saroj Khan was the choreographer for the film, and Sonali has now shared an interesting anecdote while they were filming for the Praveen Nischol directorial.

Sonali Bendra, who is now the judge for various reality shows on television, divulged how she was a rookie and quite untrained during her early days in the industry. In an interview with Mid-Day, she spoke about how Saroj Khan wanted to 'kill her' because she couldn't dance, and her role was that of a bar dancer.

"I had done English Babu Desi Mem, where Saroj Khan was ready to kill me because I couldn't dance, and I was playing a bar dancer. Can you imagine what she was going through? I was struggling," Sonali shared. She also revealed that during those days, Ahmed Khan, the assistant of Saroj Khan, would bribe her with chocolates and ice cream to train her. He would pick her up from her home in Lokhandwala (Andheri, Mumbai), take her to a rehearsal hall, and train her. "He would literally bribe me, like a little child," Sonali shared. — Etimes

Chai-Time

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Kakuro

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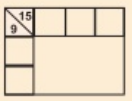
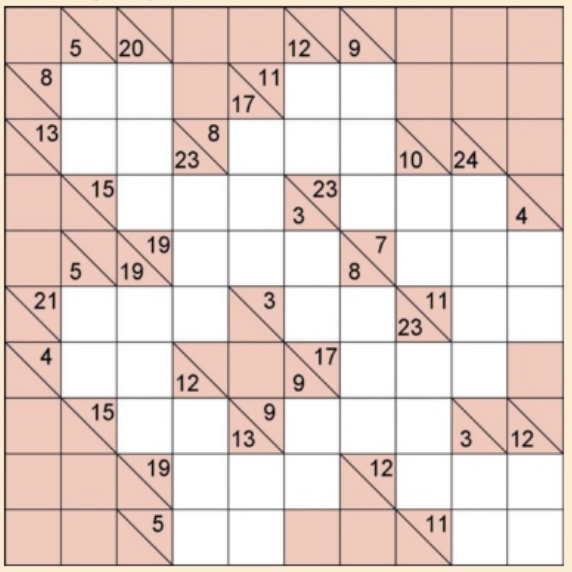
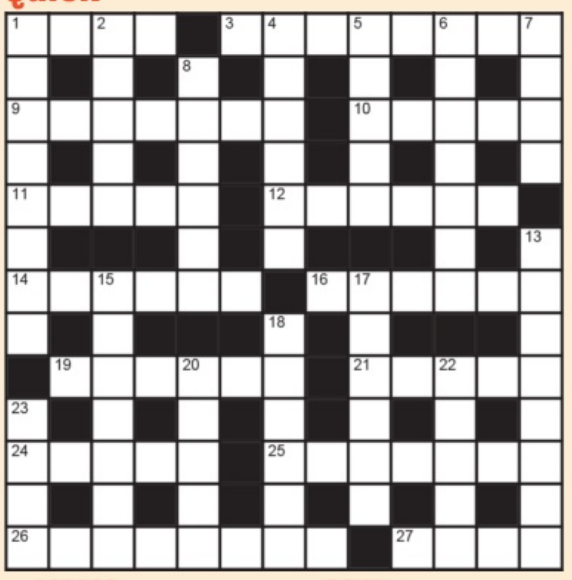


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Japanese wrestling (4)
3 Hermits; they shun company (8)
9 Lot of applause (3,4)
10 Very severe (5)
11 Form of address (5)
12 Occurrences (6)
14 Use an eraser (3,3)
16 Tolstoy novel "___ ___ Peace"? (3,3)
19 Shudder of excitement (6)
21 Short name for an African animal (5)
24 Figure out (5)
25 Dizziness felt because of height? (7)
26 Make known (8)
27 Television award (4)

DOWN

1 Tale told to evoke pity (3,5)
2 Power (5)
4 Entails or necessitates (6)
5 Pass in error (5)
6 Singers Frank and Nancy (7)
7 Peddle or vend (4)
8 A French cake (6)
13 Philosophy (8)
15 Tourist destination home to the Ranganatha Swamy Temple (1,1,5)
17 Loathes (6)
18 Works very hard at or over something (6)
20 Perfect (5)
22 Form of optical glass (5)
23 Second-hand; employed or utilised (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: C EQUALS P

QR UPK WNEZKVEE MOP-MRE WUAVE QV YU SVMYB; Z CAVDVA UYBVA CVUCOV'E.–UE-GMA PZOSV

Linemaro

If your parents hadn't met, I'd be a very unhappy man right now

Mindchow

Many of life's failures are people who did not realise how close they were to success when they gave up

Joke of the day

I went to the local video shop and I said, 'Can I take out The Elephant Man?' He said, 'He's not your type.' I said, 'Can I borrow Batman Forever?' He said, 'No, you'll have to bring him back tomorrow.'

Loop

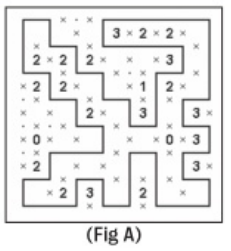
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

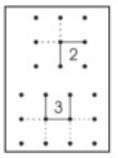
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

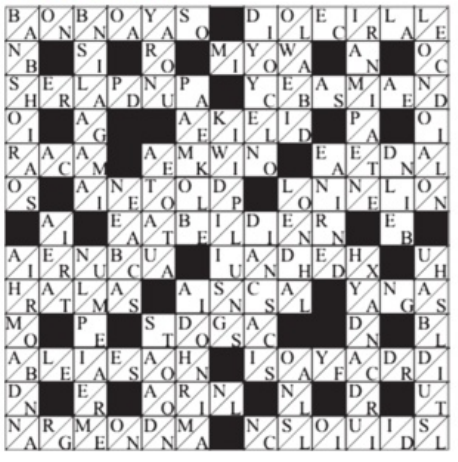


(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed

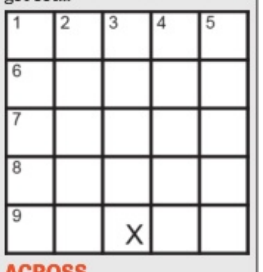
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

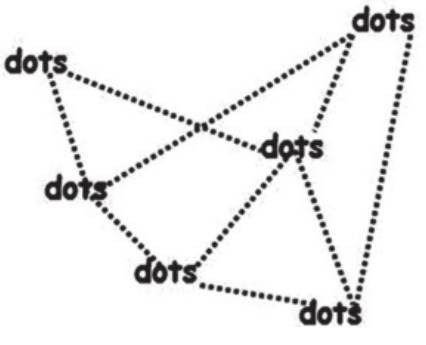
1 Freer; 6 Ex Doe;
7 R must; 8 A race;
9 New Ax

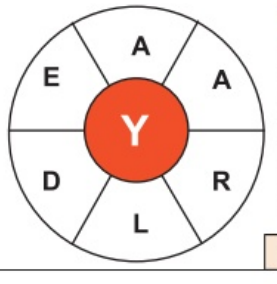
DOWN

1 Wears; 2 Taxer;
3 Ref ox; 4 Deuce;
5 Namer

Mensapuzzle

Solve the rebus





Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

11 Average; 13 Good; 15 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

5				3	4	1		
4	3			6	7			8
	7							
		1					3	
		6	5		3	4		
	5					2		
							1	
8			7	2			9	6
		5	8	9				3

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 13

1 2 7 7

Medium = 16

1 5 5 5

Hard = 45

3 3 6 3

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

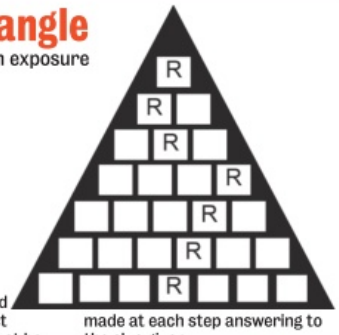
Differences: 1. Name tag is higher. 2. Skirt is longer. 3. Hand is showing. 4. Nose is smaller. 5. Package is smaller. 6. Woman's hair is different.

Riddler

Silently I drink and dive In fluids dark as night. I beat the mighty warrior But never in a fight. The black blood in my veins Your thirst for knowledge slakes. My spittle is more venomous Than that of poison snakes. What am I?

Alpha triangle

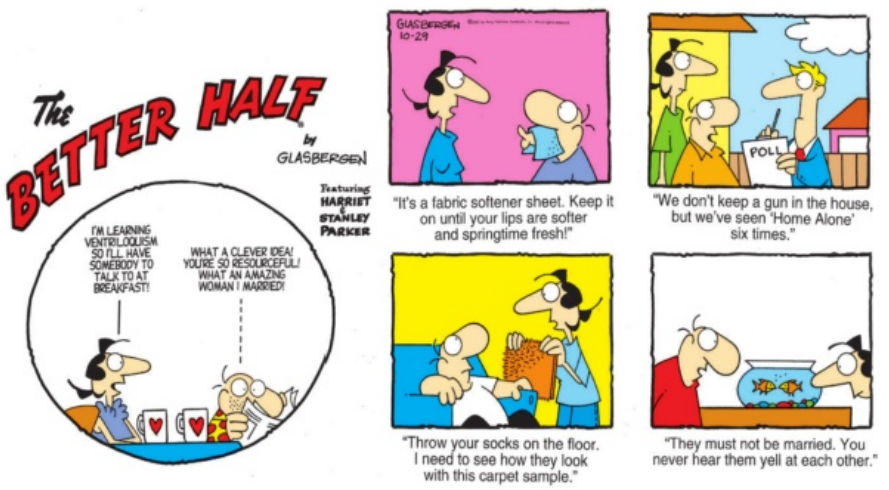
1 A unit of radiation exposure
2 Again, prefix
3 History division
4 Scorch
5 Tolerates
6 Trumpet sounds
7 Kegs

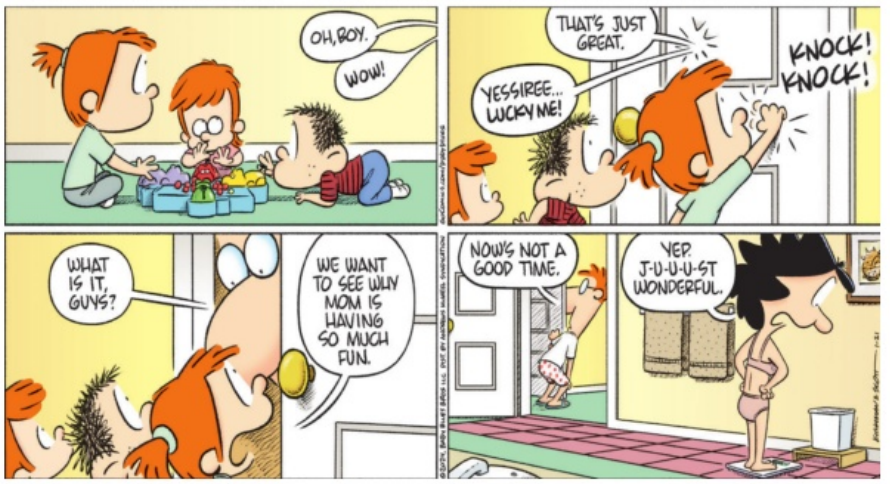


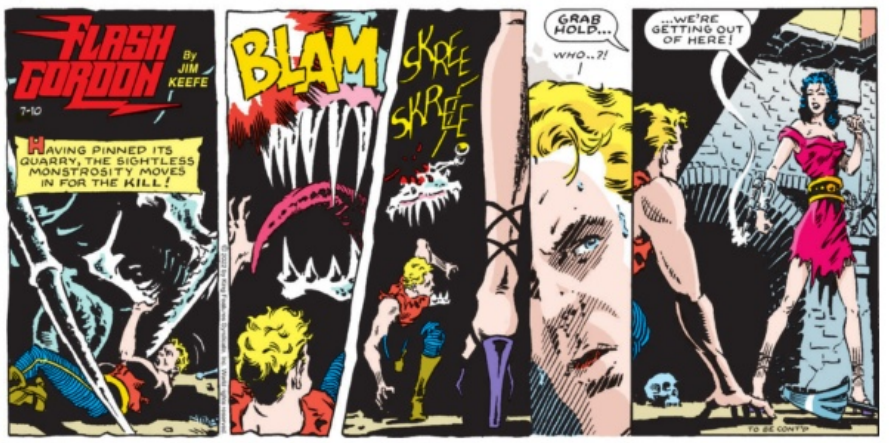
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
I'M LEARNING VENTRILOQUISM SO I'LL HAVE SOMEBODY TO TALK TO AT BREAKFAST!
WHAT A CLEVER IDEA! YOU'RE SO RESOURCEFUL! WHAT AN AMAZING WOMAN I MARRIED!
GLASBERGEN 10-29
"It's a fabric softener sheet. Keep it on until your lips are softer and springtime fresh!"
POLL
"We don't keep a gun in the house, but we've seen 'Home Alone' six times."
"Throw your socks on the floor. I need to see how they look with this carpet sample."
"They must not be married. You never hear them yell at each other."





WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may feel dull. Your focus on your targets may be lost, leading you to hypothetically make decisions that could seem unrealistic. Your expectations may be very high and because of impatience, you will not be able to fulfil them. You may be upset. You are advised to be careful on adventurous tours and rash driving.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, your past investments may give you good profits. You may get good results after an easy job. You may now overcome your obstacles. Your financial status may be improved now, and new sources of income may be there. Couples may hear good news in terms of kids. Success may come to you easily.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may feel happy as time will be favourable. You may make some important decisions in the business, which may give you benefits shortly. You may be rewarded, which may increase your prestige in the society. You may also meet some influential person

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may be happy and have good patience, which may reflect on your way of working. You may efficiently complete your task. You may plan to visit some religious places. You may make some donation to a religious place or charity. Love birds may develop trust in their relationship. You may be able to control your opponents.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may be unhappy and may feel dull. Thus it may affect your way of working and there may be some delay in your projects to be completed. It may affect your prestige in your professional and domestic life. It is advised to avoid adventure tours or rash driving. Love birds may experience a breakup. Job seekers may be disappointed in terms of new jobs.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may feel a positive vibration around you. Things will be under control. You may plan to start a new business in a partnership. You may expect some long-distance travel as well. You will have faith in your spouse, which will bring harmony to your domestic life.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may perform your best in the office. You may have a good rapport with the boss and you may get some new responsibilities in terms of promotions. Chronic health issues may be cured now. You may get good incentives for your work. Disputes with the siblings may be resolved now. Job seekers may find a new job.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today kids' education will keep you busy and you may plan for their higher studies. Couples may hear good news in terms of kids. You may consider updating yourself and planning higher studies to secure a promotion in your current job. Singles may find their soulmate. Those related to education, consultants, and banking will fare better.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may feel dissatisfied and may not be able to take your responsibilities. Your investments may give you some loss. You are advised to read documents carefully before putting in your signature. Elder's health may make you upset. You may plan to reconstruct your house, but it is advised to postpone renovation for a while.

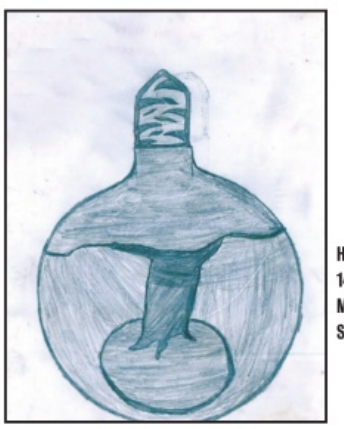
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today disputes with the siblings may be settled down and may boost your relationship with the siblings. Your vital force seems to be good, it may help you to complete difficult projects easily. You may expand your network after a short work-related trip. You may also help some needy person and it may increase your social status.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may be busy with your family and you may feel happy to enjoy with your family or friends. You may expect some new sources of income, which may boost your financial health. You may gain control over your expenditures on worthless stuff. You may buy some worthwhile things, which may increase your social status.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may be happy and blessed by the moon, and you may feel healthy. It will reflect on your way of working. You may perform well in all areas of life, which may improve your prestige. Your concentration may be very good today. You may make some difficult decisions in your business in terms of growth.

KIDZONE

Raaga Akshath, 7 years, Devamatha Central School



Harsha DA, 14 years, MEG High School

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
√(5×4×12×14 / 6×7×10×8)
√(1×1×2×2/1×1×2×2)
√(4/4)
1

RIDDLER
A pen

STRIKE OUT

A	N	N	O	Y	S	D	O	C	I	L	E			
B	I	O	M	O	W	N	O							
H	E	L	D	U	P	Y	E	S	M	A	N			
O	G		E	K	E	D	A		A	I				
R	C	A	A	K	I	N		E	T	N	A			
S	I	N	T	O	P	L	I	E	I	N				
	I	A	T	E	L	I	E	R	B					
A	R	U	B	A	I	N	D	E	X	H				
R	A	M	S	I	N	C	A	A	G	A				
M	P	T	O	G	A	N	B							
A	L	I	S	O	N	S	A	F	A	R	I			
D	R	A	I	L	L	D	T							
A	G	E	N	D	A	C	L	O	U	D	S			

FAST FIVE

R	E	F	E	R
E	X	O	D	E
S	T	R	U	M
A	R	E	C	A
W	A	X	E	N

QUOTE UNCODE
My own business always bores me to death; I prefer other people's. - Oscar Wilde

QUICK

D	I	S	C	L	O	S	E		E	M	M	Y		
E		L		A		E		S		S		G		
S	O	L	V	E		V	E	R	T	I	G	O		
	U		I		D		A		O		R		L	
	T	H	A	R	I	L		H	I	P	P	O		
Y		R			S		B					E		
R	U	B	O	U	T		W	A	R	A	N	D		
O			A		S			R				I		
T	I	T	L	E		E	V	E	N	T	S			
S	H		T		U		S		A		L			
B	I	G	H	A	N	D		P	E	N	A	L		
O		I		G		N		A		I		E		
S	U	M	O		R	E	C	L	U	S	E	S		

BULL'S EYE
ALREADY, dearly, delay, dray, dyer, early, lady, layer, lyre, rayed, ready, relay, rely, yard, year

MENSA PUZZLE
Connect the dots

SUDOKU

5	6	8	9	3	4	1	2	7
4	3	2	1	6	7	9	5	8
1	7	9	2	5	8	3	6	4
9	8	1	4	7	2	6	3	5
7	2	6	5	1	3	4	8	9
3	5	4	6	8	9	2	7	1
6	9	7	3	4	5	8	1	2
8	4	3	7	2	1	5	9	6
2	1	5	8	9	6	7	4	3

ALPHA TRIANGLE
R, Re, Era, Sear, Bears, Blares, Barrels.

LOOP

GO FIGURE
Easy
7 + 7 - 2 + 1 = 13
Medium
5 + 5 + 5 + 1 = 16
Hard
3 x 3 + 6 x 3 = 45

KAKURO

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